

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 05748 101636Z

61 S

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 OMB-01 L-03

DODE-00 /067 W

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P R 101547Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2503

INFO USUN NEW YORK 0892

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PGOV, SG, US

SUBJ: SENGHOR/FORD LETTER CONCERNING ILO

1.EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FOR TRANSMISSION TO PRESIDENT FORD
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT SENGHOR CONCERNING POSSIBILITY OF US
GIVING NOTICE OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO. LETTER IS
FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE, AND ESSENTIAL PARTS FOLLOW (BEGIN
EMBASSY SUMMARY TRANSLATION): DIFFICULT SITUATION WHICH FACES
ILO... AFTER INCIDENTS AT LAST SESSION LEADS ME TO REQUEST
GREATEST UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR GOVERNMENT.... POSITION TAKEN BY
YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AT THAT SESSION AFTER ADMISSION OF PLO
COULD, IF CARRIED OUT, PLACE ILO IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY WHICH
WOULD CERTAINLY GRAVELY COMPROMISE ITS WORK. I
UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE. I CAN ASSURE
YOU NONETHELESS THAT THIRD WORLD SUPPORT FOR PLO IS IN NO WAY
SIGN OF HOSTILITY TOWARD YOUR COUNTRY. MANY OF THOSE COUN-
TRIES, INCLUDING SENEGAL, WHICH VOTED IN FAVOR OF AMENDMENT (EMB.
NOTE: WHICH PERMITTED SEATING OF PLO DELEGATION AS OBSERVERS)
ARE FRIENDS OF UNITED STATES. THESE COUNTRIES HAVE SUPPORTED
PLO IN GOOD FAITH, SINCE MOST OF THEM HAVE SUFFERED FOR DECADES,
EVEN CENTURIES, AS WAS CASE WITH MY COUNTRY, WEIGHT OF
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COLONIAL DOMINATION. UNHAPPY MEMORIES OF RECENT PAST NATURALLY

TURN THEIR SYMPATHIES TOWARD PLO, WHICH SEEKS TO RECOVER ITS PEOPLE'S LIBERTIES. THIS SENTIMENTAL POSITION DOES NOT, I EMPHASIZE, IN ANY WAY AFFECT RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE THAT THESE COUNTRIES HOLD TOWARD ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT. WHILE RECOGNIZING PALESTINIANS' RIGHT TO A HOMELAND, AND EGYPT AND SYRIA'S RIGHT TO REGAIN THEIR OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, THESE COUNTRIES REMAIN STEADFASTLY IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE, AS I RECENTLY RE-STATED PUBLICLY IN ALGIERS.

I REMAIN PERSONALLY CONVINCED, AND MANY OF MY PEERS THINK AS I DO, THAT ONLY A FRUITFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND PLO WILL SUFFICE TO PRESERVE A LASTING PEACE.... SINCE YOUR COUNTRY IS WIDELY CONSIDERED CHAMPION OF LIBERTY, YOU HAVE, IN THAT SENSE, A DUTY TO HUMANITY. YOUR COUNTRY'S WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO...WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD, AND WOULD CREATE A GREAT SENSE OF DISAPPOINTMENT AMONG YOUR FRIENDS. THE ILO WOULD LOSE IRREPLACEABLE RESOURCES WITHOUT WHICH IT COULD NOT FUNCTION.... ILO'S WORKS ARE OF CAPITAL IMPORTANCE TO DEVELOPING NATIONS... THE ASSISTANCE IT LENDS THEM IS VITAL TO ESTABLISHMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE SO BADLY NEEDED BY THEIR PEOPLES. IN VIEW OF ALL THIS, I ASK YOUR GOVERNMENT AND CONGRESS NOT TO WITHDRAW YOUR PRESTIGIOUS COUNTRY FROM ILO. (YOUR COUNTRY) HAS A PRIMARY ROLE TO PLAY IN THIS ORGANIZATION, WHICH, SINCE ITS FOUNDING, HAS MANAGED TO SURVIVE SO MANY STORMS. CURRENT WORLD POLITICAL SITUATION IS AT THE BOTTOM OF CRISIS PRESENTLY SHAKING (THE ILO), BUT I AM CERTAIN THAT CALM WILL SOON BE RESTORED. (POLITE COMPLIMENTARY CLOSING, END SUMMARY TRANSLATION).

2. POUCHING ORIGINAL LETTER BY COURIER DEPARTING DAKAR OCT. 13 ARRIVING WASHINGTON SAME DAY. GIVEN TONE OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S LETTER, WHICH EMBASSY CONSIDERS CONSTRUCTIVE AND TEMPERATE, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS PRESIDENTIAL-LEVEL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT EXPLAINING CURRENT US INTENTIONS ON ILO.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: UNION GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Draft Date: 10 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D750353-0463
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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06 JUL 2006

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